



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/724,098	12/01/2003	Takeshi Sugahara	245942US2S	1408
22850	7590	02/08/2006	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				TRAN, MICHAEL THANH
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2827		

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

TJ

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/724,098	SUGAHARA, TAKESHI
	Examiner Michael t. Tran	Art Unit 2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on December 01, 2003 through January 06, 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 7-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 2-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

MICHAEL TRAN

PR

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 120103& 11/10/04

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ pr
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Communications dated December 01, 2003 through January 06, 2005, claims 1-12 are active in this application.

Foreign Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a) (d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statements filed November 10, 2004 and December 01, 2003 have been considered.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 2-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

6. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Wada [U.S. Patent #5,724,292].

With respect to claim 1, Wada disclose, in figures 1, 3, 4, 9 and 12, a semiconductor memory device comprising: a plurality of bit line pairs [6x and 6y] each having first and second bit lines arranged in a first direction [vertical]; a cell array [see figure 1] having a plurality of SRAM cells [MC's] each of which is connected between the first and second bit lines of a corresponding bit line pair via first and second storage nodes [SN1 and SN2], respectively; a plurality of word lines [5a and 5b] arranged in a second direction [horizontal] crossing the first direction; and a data write circuit [7] which, in the write mode, write data into an SRAM cell selected by a word line via the first and second bit lines [see figure 9 – note that during the write cycle, when the selected word line [logical “high” state] both bit lines are also at logical “high” state] and, in the read mode, rewrites data read onto the first bit line from an SRAM cell selected by a word line onto the first bit line [see figure 4 – note that right after a destructive read operation, there's a restoring [rewriting] of data where both bit lines are at a logical “high” state].

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 7-12 are allowable over the prior art of record.
8. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of records does not show (in addition to the other elements in the claim) the following:
 - Wherein the write circuit includes a rewrite circuit which, when data corresponding to a precharge potential is read from the first bit line in the read mode, recharges the first bit line to the precharge potential on the basis of the read data.
 - Wherein the write circuit includes a stop circuit which stops the operation of rewriting read data onto the bit line until read data is outputted to a data read output terminal in the read mode.
 - A data write circuit which, in the write mode, writes data into an SRAM cell selected by the first and second word lines via the first and second bit lines and, in the read mode, rewrites data read onto at least one of the first and second bit lines from an SRAM cell selected by an activated one of the first and second word lines onto the bit line onto which the data has been read.

Conclusion

9. When responding to the Office action, Applicants are advised to provide the Examiner with line and page numbers of the application and/or references cited to assist the Examiner in the prosecution of this case.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Michael T. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1795. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30-6:00 P.M.

11. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1650.


Michael T. Tran
Art Unit 2827
February 4, 2006

MICHAEL TRA
PRIMARY EXAMINER